DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY RLS DATE 10/25/82
TS. AUTH. EXEMPTION(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☑
DECLASSIFIED ☑ RELEASABLE ☐
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Department of State TELEGRAM

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 HA-05 ADS-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 SS-15
PA-01 ICAE-00 INR-10 INRE-00 NSCE-00 AID-05 /059 R

DRAFTED BY AF/P:F D COOK:SPL
APPROVED BY AF:R M MOOSE
AF/C:L D JUNIOR
HJ KELLEY
HA:M SCHNEIDER
S/S-O-:RSTEVEN
----------072903 2706312 /11
O P 270603Z MAY 79 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BANGUI NIACT IMMEDIATE
USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 136468 TOSEC 040168

SECRETARY FOR HODDING CARTER

E.O. 12065 GDS 5/26/85 (MOOSE, R.M.)

TAGS: PINS, OTRA (COOKE, GOODWIN)

SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECALL OF AMB. COOKE FROM CENTRAL -- AFRICAN EMPIRE

REF: STATE 134416 (NOT SENT PARIS)

1. FOR YOUR GUIDANCE, THERE FOLLOWS DEPARTMENT'S INTENDED ANNOUNCEMENT ON AMB. COOKE'S RECALL, AND PRESS GUIDANCE (Q'S AND A'S) FOR USE ON AN IF-ASKED BASIS. PER REFTEL, ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE ONLY WHEN DEPARTMENT INFORMED BY EMBASSY BANGUI THAT AMBASSADOR HAS DEPARTED POST, PRESUMABLY ON MORNING OF MAY 28.
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2. FOR BANGUI: IF YOU BELIEVE ANNOUNCEMENT OR PRESS

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GUIDANCE SHOULD BE AMENDED OR AMPLIFIED, WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING YOUR VIEWS ASAP.

3. BIO DATA ON AMBASSADOR COOKE: FSO-2, BORN IN 1931, SWORN IN AS AMBASSADOR TO THE CAE: OCTOBER 16, 1978, CREDENTIALS PRESENTED IN BANGUI: NOVEMBER 4, 1978.

4. POSTED ANNOUNCEMENT: AMBASSADOR GOODWIN COOKE, AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE, IS BEING RECALLED TO WASHINGTON THIS WEEK FOR CONSULTATIONS ON U.S.-C.A.E. RELATIONS.
5. IF ASKED BASIS, ONLY:
Q. DOES AMBASSADOR COOKE'S RECALL RELATE TO THE REPORTED KILLING OF STUDENTS IN BANGUI?

A: YOU MAY ASSUME THAT THE REPORTED INCIDENTS WILL BE AMONG THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED DURING THE COURSE OF HIS CONSULTATIONS.

Q: WHEN DOES AMBASSADOR COOKE ARRIVE?

A: AMBASSADOR COOKE WILL ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

Q: HOW LONG WILL HE BE HERE?

A: AMBASSADOR WILL REMAIN IN WASHINGTON UNTIL CONSULTATIONS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.

Q: HOW DOES THE U.S. VIEW THE REPORTED INCIDENTS IN BANGUI?

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(SPOKESMAN FYI: ABOUT ONE HUNDRED STUDENTS WERE REPORTEDLY KILLED--SOME ALLEGEDLY TORTURED--BY THE EMPEROR'S POLICE IN MID-APRIL. END FYI.)

A: WE NOTE THAT:
-- AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL ISSUED A REPORT FROM PARIS CONFIRMING THE INCIDENTS;

-- EMPEROR BOKASSA, SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE LAST WEEK IN KIGALI, RWANDA, ADMITTED THAT SOME KILLINGS HAD TAKEN PLACE; EARLIER, HIS AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE RESIGNED,

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CITING THE KILLINGS:

-- A FIVE-NATION COMMISSION FROM THE FRANCO-AFRICAN SUMMIT (HELD IN KIGALI, RWANDA LAST WEEK) HAS BEEN SENT TO BANGUI TO INVESTIGATE.

THEREFORE, WHILE ALL THE FACTS ARE NOT IN, THE REPORTS ARE DEEPLY DISTURBING. THE KILLINGS ARE DEPLORABLE AND CONSTITUTE A GROSS VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. WE HAVE ALREADY EXPRESSEDOUR DEEP CONCERN IN A MEETING HELD AT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE EARLIER THIS MONTH BETWEEN DEPUTY ASSISTANT S:CRETARY LANNON WLAKER AND THE CAE CHARGE D' AFFAIRES.

Q: WHEN WILL THE REPORTS BE AVAILABLE FROM THE GROUPS PLANNING TO VISIT BANGUI?

(SPOKESMAN FYI: IN ADDITION TO THE FIVE-NATION COMMISSION FROM THE FRANCO-AFRICAN SUMMIT, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL HAS BEEN INVITED TO THE C.A.E. BY THE EMPEROR. END FYI.)

A: WE HOPE THEY WILL BE PROMPT. AS FOR TIMING, I REFER YOU TO THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED.

Q: HOW MANY AMERICANS ARE IN THE C.A.E.?
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A: APPROXIMATELY 300 AMERICANS ARE RESIDENT IN THE CAE:
-- 25 OFFICIAL AMERICANS, INCLUDING DEPENDENTS;
-- APPROXIMATELY 70 PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS;
-- ABOUT 200 OTHERS, MOSTLY MISSIONARIES.

6. A.I.D. QUESTIONS
Q: HOW MUCH AID DOES THE UNITED STATES PROVIDE TO THE CAE?

A: -- U.S. BILATERAL AID TO THE CAE HAS TOTALED $6.4 MILLION SINCE 1966 (THE YEAR BOKASSA CAME TO POWER);

-- NO DIRECT AID FUNDS WERE REQUESTED OR APPROVED FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR (FY-79).

Q: IS ANY AID CURRENTLY BEING REQUESTED FOR THE CAE?

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A: -- AID FUNDS REQUESTED FOR FY-80 WERE DELETED IN SEPARATE ACTIONS BY THE HOUSE AND SENATE; FINAL ACTION AWAITS THE OUTCOME OF THE SENATE-HOUSE CONFERENCE;

-- MOREOVER, A HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE RECENTLY ADDED THE CAE TO THE LIST OF THOSE COUNTRIES INELIGIBLE FOR U.S. ASSISTANCE.

Q: ON WHAT GROUNDS?

A: HUMAN RIGHTS.

Q: WHAT FUNDS HAD BEEN REQUESTED FOR FY-80?

A: NO NEW FUNDS HAD BEEN REQUESTED, BUT AID HAD ASKED FOR
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$650,000 TO COMPLETE A SMALL VILLAGE HEALTH AND NUTRITION PROGRAM IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE COUNTRY.

CHRISTOPHER

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